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Timothy H. Van Dyke
 Timothy H. Van Dyke, Patent Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Bianchi *et al.*
 Application No: 09/782,594
 Filed: 2/12/2001
 Title: ASSEMBLED IMPLANT
 Docket No: RTI-112R

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.115

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Dear Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This application is a continuation-in-part of pending application serial numbers 09/191,232 filed on November 13, 1998, pending; and of 09/378,527, filed on August 20, 1999, pending; and of 09/390,174, filed on September 7, 1999, pending; and of 29/123,227, filed on May 12, 2000, pending. This application is also related

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